



AMERICAN OBSERVER

News and Issues—With Pros and Cons

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U.S. Seeks Way To Defend Asia

New Efforts Also Being Made to Strengthen Other Areas Against Communists

WHERE do we and our allies stand in the world today? Are we gaining ground in the struggle against communist aggression, or are the Red-controlled nations winning new victories? Also, how are we and our allies getting along together?

To get answers to these questions, let us take a look at some of the big international developments that have occurred in recent weeks:

In Southeast Asia: Communist China and Russia scored a gain over France and the rest of the free world this summer by the truce that ended fighting in Indochina.

France felt that she must end the 7½-year war against native communists in Indochina, because it was costing more than France could afford and no victory was in sight. As the price of a truce, France gave the communists a rich portion of the Indochinese state of Viet Nam. The new communist territory reaches 400 miles southward from Red China's frontier into Indochina, and 12 million more Asians are now under Red rule.

The U. S. government did not like the truce, but accepted France's position that it had to be made.

Hoping to prevent further communist gains in Southeast Asia, our leaders are now seeking agreement on a new defense organization for the area. The idea is to get France, Britain, free Southeast Asia countries, Australia, and New Zealand in the organization.

(Concluded on page 6)



HARRIS & EWING
REPUBLICAN Senator John Cooper of Kentucky is seeking re-election. His opponent is former Democratic Vice President Alben Barkley.



HERBLOCK IN WASHINGTON POST AND TIMES HERALD
FIGHT BEGINS. Democrats and Republicans will show very little friendliness for each other in debating issues in the weeks ahead.



PAUL DOUGLAS, Democratic Senator of Illinois, faces a tough election contest. Republican candidate Joseph Meek is backed by President Eisenhower.

Election Campaign Is Under Way

Candidates Bidding for Support from the Nation's Voters November 2nd in Contests Involving Most Congressional Seats and 34 Governorships

THE end of the big 1954 political race is less than two months away. All states except one will hold general elections on November 2. The exception is Maine, whose balloting occurs September 13. Voters will choose the following national, state, and local officials:

- (1) All 435 members of the U. S. House of Representatives. House members are elected every two years.
- (2) Thirty-seven U. S. senators. A third (32) of our senators face the voters every 2 years, and this time there are 5 extra positions to be filled because of deaths and a resignation.
- (3) Governors in 34 states.
- (4) Numerous other state and local officials.

Since last spring, each party has

been holding state and local political contests—primary elections in most cases, meetings or conventions in a few others—to pick candidates for the various offices. Democratic and Republican candidates chosen in such contests will run against each other in the general elections this fall.

In some states, campaign excitement declines as soon as the party candidates are selected. This occurs where one party or the other is so strong that it has little opposition in the final balloting. Democratic contestants are considered safe in a number of southern states, and the same is true of Republican candidates in certain other areas.

In many states, however, the balance between Republicans and Democrats

is extremely close. Election results in these "doubtful states" won't be known until the general November balloting is finished.

For our nation as a whole, the big unanswered question is this: Which party will control the new Congress that begins work next year? Election results in the "doubtful states" can turn the tide either way.

The Republicans control both houses of the outgoing Congress, but they do so by an extremely narrow margin. The Senate has 48 Republicans, 47 Democrats, and 1 Independent. The House of Representatives has 218 Republicans, 213 Democrats, 1 Independent, and 3 vacancies.

Republicans hope to win additional House and Senate seats in the coming elections, and thus increase their margin of control. Democrats, on the other hand, hope to achieve gains that will make them the majority party in Congress.

Candidates. Who are some of the well known contenders in the 1954 struggle for Congress?

In Kentucky, Republican Senator John Cooper is running for re-election against Democrat Alben Barkley. Cooper is Kentucky's first Republican senator in many years. Barkley—former representative, senator, and Vice President—has suffered only one election defeat during about half a century in politics.

Republican Senator Margaret Chase Smith is practically certain of re-election in strongly Republican Maine. Senator John Sparkman, a Vice Presidential candidate in 1952, is likewise safe in Democratic Alabama.

Illinois' Democratic Senator Paul Douglas is running for re-election against Joseph Meek, Republican. Douglas contends that on many issues he supports President Eisenhower more strongly than does his GOP opponent. Meek, however, has received

(Continued on page 2)

IN THE HEADLINES - - - PEOPLE, PLACES, AND EVENTS

TWO CRUCIAL AREAS

Watch closely: (1) What, if anything, is accomplished at the Southeast Asia Defense Conference in the Philippines this week; (2) whether or not plans can finally be worked out to bring West German troops into the European defense program. Developments on both these fronts in the next few weeks will be vitally important to the free world.

BUSY TRAVELER DULLES

U. S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles is fast chalking up travel records for a Cabinet officer. When he returns from the Southeast Asia Conference, he will have traveled more than 140,000 miles during the time since he became a member of Eisenhower's Cabinet in January 1953.

IF THERE HAD BEEN TV

Robert E. Lee of the Federal Communications Commission believes that there wouldn't have been any Civil

War—if people of the 1860's had been able to listen to debates of the issues over national radio and TV networks. Lee thinks the people would then have been able to work out their disagreements. The commissioner is no relation of the famous Confederate general of the same name. He wasn't even born in the South.

35 MILLION IN SCHOOL

Estimates vary but probably over 35½ million students will be in school this fall—including 5 million enrolled for the first time. There will be over 28 million in public, private, and parochial grade schools—and around 7½ million in the high schools. The usual overcrowding still exists.

BRITAIN AND COMMUNISTS

Is Britain drawing closer to Russia and China? Many observers think so, because of visits to the two communist lands by British Labor Party leaders, including former Prime Minister Cle-

ment Attlee. The group discussed political questions at length with Red leaders. U. S. officials are watching for results of this visit on the foreign policy of Great Britain.

NEW U.S. AIR ACADEMY

Defense leaders are making plans for the new Air Force Academy to be built at Colorado Springs, Colorado. They hope to have the school ready not later than 1957. In the meantime, the Air Force will set up a temporary school at Lowry Field near Denver. The first class of cadets will begin studies there next summer.

VISITORS TO CAPITAL

During the summer, more than 400,000 students—mostly from high schools around the nation—visited Washington. The youths saw Congress in session, the Supreme Court building, took in other capital sights and also nearby Mount Vernon.

Election Race

(Continued from page 1)

the President's indorsement, and observers think this race will be close.

Estes Kefauver, who made a strong bid for the 1952 Democratic Presidential nomination, seeks Senate re-election in Tennessee. Republicans, in their primary about a month ago, named Ray Jenkins to oppose him. Jenkins, who became nationally famous as chief committee counsel in last spring's McCarthy-Stevens hearings, was nominated despite his protests that he did not want a Senate post.

Homer Ferguson, chairman of the Senate Republican Policy Committee, is running for Senate re-election in Michigan. His opponent is Patrick McNamara, a Detroit labor leader.

Among members of the present House of Representatives who seek re-election are Republican Joseph Martin, Jr., of Massachusetts, and Democrat Sam Rayburn of Texas. For a long time, the job of Speaker—or chairman—of the House has passed back and forth between these two, depending on which party has held the majority. Martin has been Speaker lately; Rayburn probably will take over if his party wins the coming elections.

Issues. Which party deserves to control Congress? *Let us first hear what the Democrats say:*

"Republican policy, or lack of it, has left our government adrift and confused. Eisenhower has tried to be a good President, but has lacked political experience. He hasn't been able to exert strong leadership over his own party in Congress. Quite often, too, his actions have been inconsistent with his statements.

"Consider the Republicans' handling of foreign trade. We continue selling more goods to other countries than we're willing to buy from them. Then we wonder why they feel that they must trade with communist nations. Eisenhower urges larger purchases abroad, but his own party this year voted almost overwhelmingly against the trade measures he wanted, while the Democrats supported him.

"Eisenhower himself has been inconsistent on foreign trade. After saying that our country should buy greater amounts of foreign goods, he boosted the tariff on Swiss watches so as to cut down on their sale in America. Foreigners are bewildered over what the U. S. government intends to do about international trade.

"Moreover, the Republican leaders have frequently contradicted themselves on foreign policy. Last April, Vice President Nixon said our country would need to send troops to Indochina if there was no other way to keep that land from going communist. Later he said: Our policy is to avoid sending our boys to Indochina.

"Not many months ago, President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles were busy warning us that a communist victory in Indochina would open all Southeast Asia for Red conquest. They hinted that we would strike massive blows to prevent such a victory. But this summer they took no effective action when France abandoned much of Indochina to the communists.

"Actually, the administration, despite all its tough talk, had not built up large enough land forces to fight an Indochina-type war.

"On a wide range of policies here at

POLITICAL CONTESTS IN 1954 ELECTIONS

STATE	PRESENT SENATORS			SENATORS TO BE ELECTED	PRESENT REPRESENTATIVES			PRESENT GOVERNORS		GOVERNORS TO BE ELECTED
	REP.	DEM.	MISC.		REP.	DEM.	MISC.	REP.	DEM.	
ALABAMA		2		1		9		✓	✓	✓
ARIZONA	1	1			1	1		✓		✓
ARKANSAS		2		1		6			✓	✓
CALIFORNIA	2			1	19	11		✓		✓
COLORADO	1	1		1	2	2		✓		✓
CONNECTICUT	2				5	1		✓		✓
DELAWARE	1	1		1	1			✓		
FLORIDA		2				8			✓	✓
GEORGIA		2		1		9	1 VAC.		✓	✓
IDAHO	2			1	1	1		✓		✓
ILLINOIS	1	1		1	16	9		✓		
INDIANA	2				10	1		✓		
IOWA	1	1		1	8			✓		✓
KANSAS	2			1	5	1		✓		✓
KENTUCKY	1	1		1	2	6			✓	
LOUISIANA		2		1		8			✓	
MAINE	2			1	3			✓		✓
MARYLAND	2				4	3		✓		✓
MASSACHUSETTS	1	1		1	8	6		✓		✓
MICHIGAN	2			1	12	5	1 VAC.		✓	✓
MINNESOTA	1	1		1	5	4		✓		✓
MISSISSIPPI		2		1		6			✓	
MISSOURI		2			4	7			✓	
MONTANA		2		1	1	1		✓		
NEBRASKA	2			2	4			✓		✓
NEVADA	1	1			1			✓		✓
NEW HAMPSHIRE	2			2	2			✓		✓
NEW JERSEY	2			1	8	6			✓	
NEW MEXICO		2		1		2		✓		✓
NEW YORK	1	1			27	15	1 VAC.	✓		✓
N. CAROLINA		2		2	1	11			✓	
NORTH DAKOTA	2				2			✓		✓
OHIO	1	1		1	16	6	1 IND.		✓	✓
OKLAHOMA		2		1	1	5			✓	✓
OREGON	1		1 IND.	1	4			✓		✓
PENNSYLVANIA	2				19	11		✓		✓
RHODE ISLAND		2		1		2			✓	✓
S. CAROLINA		2		1		6			✓	✓
SOUTH DAKOTA	2			1	2			✓		✓
TENNESSEE		2		1	2	7			✓	✓
TEXAS		2		1		22			✓	✓
UTAH	2				2			✓		
VERMONT	2				1			✓		✓
VIRGINIA		2		1	3	7			✓	
WASHINGTON		2			6	1		✓		
WEST VIRGINIA		2		1	1	5			✓	
WISCONSIN	2				8	2		✓		✓
WYOMING	2			1	1			✓		✓
TOTALS	48	47	1	37	218	213	4	29	19	34

DRAWN FOR THE AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON

STUDY THE CHART to keep up on the election picture. It shows which parties hold Senate and House seats now, and which hold governorships in the states. You also can see which posts are now under contest. The abbreviation *Ind.* stands for Independent and *Vac.* for vacancy. Both parties are confident of victory in the November elections.

home, Republicans have failed to keep faith with the American people. For instance, they promised to balance Uncle Sam's budget, but President Eisenhower now wants to keep on increasing the national debt. They promised to reduce taxes for all the people, then passed a revenue law whose main feature was a tax reduction for well-to-do stockholders. They promised statehood for Alaska and Hawaii, but have not granted it.

"The Republicans gave several coastal states vast offshore oil deposits that should have been kept for our nation as a whole. They have tried to give a few big corporations an 'inside track' on the development of commercial electric power from atomic energy. They seek in various ways to weaken the Tennessee Valley Authority—a government agency that develops elec-

tricity, controls floods, promotes soil conservation, and has brought benefit to large areas in the South.

"There were twice as many Americans unemployed in June 1954 as in June 1953. Farm incomes have declined badly in the last year and a half. Republicans have not acted vigorously on either situation.

"To divert attention from their own failures, the Republicans have made a series of vicious smear attacks upon the record of recent Democratic administrations. They say the Democrats were too easy on communists and Red sympathizers in high government offices, but one of their own members, Senator McCarthy, attacks the administrative departments as vigorously on this issue now as he did when the Democrats were in power.

"The Republicans simply have not

done as good a job of running the government as the Democrats did, and the voters in November will take away their congressional majority."

Republicans put forth the following arguments in reply:

"Contrary to what the Democrats claim, President Eisenhower has displayed strong leadership. For instance, he obtained congressional approval of U. S. participation in the St. Lawrence Seaway project. This was an effort on which five previous Presidents in succession had failed.

"It's true that the GOP members of Congress haven't agreed 100 per cent with Eisenhower, but he recognizes the lawmakers' right to study and revise his proposals. Democratic Presidents Roosevelt and Truman often faced stiff opposition from their own party in Congress, and it angered

them. They didn't understand teamwork as Eisenhower does.

"Republican congressmen have given the President good support on large parts of his legislative program. For instance, GOP senators lined up solidly behind Eisenhower's tax revision measure, while most Democrats opposed it.

"With respect to foreign trade, the Republican-controlled Congress granted at least part of the program that Eisenhower wanted. The President sought a three-year extension of his power to make tariff-reducing agreements, and Congress granted such an extension for one year. It's untrue to say that nothing was done.

"The Republicans have made a good record on foreign policy. The world is more peaceful today than it has been for at least 20 years. Two major conflicts—the Korean and Indochinese—have ended since President Eisenhower and the Republican-controlled Congress began work.

"Republican leaders are far from satisfied with the Indochina settlement, but at least the fighting has been stopped and we can now work for permanent peace in Southeast Asia.

"Most of America's present foreign troubles result from Democratic mistakes. The Democrats were too soft on communists at home and abroad. Presidents Roosevelt and Truman allowed communists and Red sympathizers to reach positions of influence in our government. The Democratic administrations made concessions that permitted large-scale communist expansion in Europe and Asia.

A Stronger Stand

"The Republicans have definitely reduced the number of Red sympathizers in influential U. S. government positions. As a result, our government is taking a stronger stand against communist aggression.

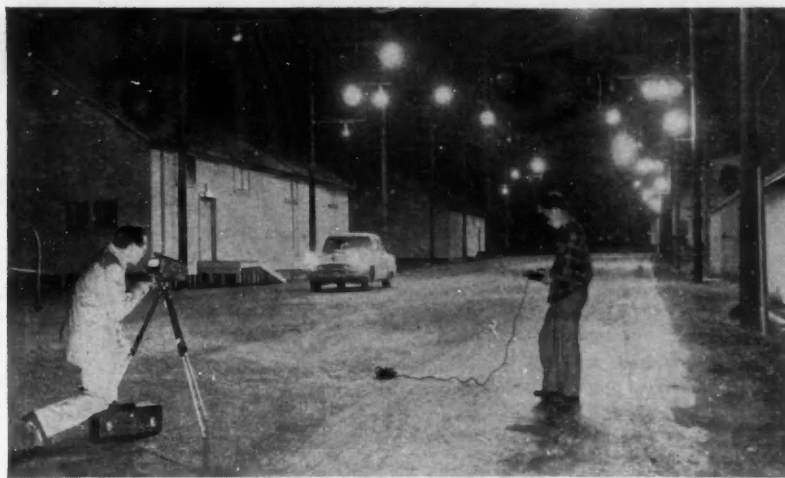
"Here at home, under Republican leadership, the federal government has adopted a more friendly attitude toward private industry than it held during Democratic administrations. Thus, businessmen are in a position to do a better job of serving America.

"The Republicans have cut down considerably on U. S. spending. They have established a sensible, realistic farm price support program—fair to farmers and consumers alike. They have passed an income tax law which—despite Democratic claims—brings some relief to most taxpayers. They would have admitted Hawaii to the Union if the Democrats hadn't tacked an Alaska statehood measure onto the Hawaii bill. As for the grant of offshore oil deposits to coastal states, numerous Democrats favored it.

"Democrats argued during the last Presidential campaign that a serious depression would occur if the Republicans came into power. It hasn't. The Democrats now charge that unemployment in America has risen dangerously. Actually the number of people at work today—about 62 million—is near an all-time peak. The number of unemployed—about 3½ million—is small in comparison to this.

"The Republicans—having run the government in a clean, honest, and businesslike way—deserve and will get a majority in the next Congress."

So run the conflicting arguments in the political campaign for control of the 84th Congress, which begins work next year. We shall deal at length with the major issues between now and election time.



THE BEST-LIGHTED HIGHWAY. The University of California's Engineering Field Station set up this block-long road to study the effects of lights on night drivers. More than 60 lighting units are being used for the tests. The engineers hope to find out what kind of road lighting is best.

Science in the News

STEPS to prevent further rock slides at Niagara Falls have been taken as a result of the collapse of a big section of Prospect Point on the American side of the falls last July. As a safety measure, engineers dislodged a 70,000 ton tip of the point which was left hanging by last month's slide.

This recent avalanche was the worst rock fall since January 1931 when the middle of the American falls collapsed into the gorge below. Experts say that it takes centuries to bring about huge slides such as these. They occur when the hard covering layer of limestone wears off, thereby exposing layers of sandstone and shale which are less resistant to the hard pounding of the falls.

Since 1842 the falls have been receding at a rate of less than 4 feet a year. It would take hundreds of years to tear down the 16 miles of rock that still lie between the falls and Lake Erie.

★

Two programs for the prevention of polio are being watched carefully over the country as the disease reaches

its seasonal peak. One is the national field trials of the Salk vaccine, which it is hoped will be a permanent polio preventive. The other is the continued use of gamma globulin, which gives a temporary protection against the paralyzing form of the disease.

In the Salk vaccine program, a total of 625,000 children between the ages of 6 and 8 received a series of three injections. Of this number about 425,000 received the actual vaccine, the rest were given an injection of a harmless substance which would have no effect. A staff of 150 scientists and researchers are now working on a study of the tests. This study will continue until early 1955 when the results will be made known.

Gamma globulin has already been declared 88 per cent effective for a period of about five weeks when given under the right conditions and in the right amount. Because of the limited supply of the substance, it is available only under the direction of state health departments. It is being used only for large groups of people who are threatened by polio epidemics.

Our Readers Say—

Juvenile delinquency is not a problem that can be solved easily. Every young person and adult can help overcome crime among our youth. We can all start by living according to rules of good conduct at home, and by following these same rules wherever we are.

In our community, we are encouraging good fellowship by building recreational centers. Teen-agers are also forming clubs centered around the special interests of members.

SHERY HERBERT,
Schriever, Louisiana

★

As nations get to understand one another better, they become friendlier. American good-will missions have helped make friends for us in many parts of the globe. I believe it is high time we sent many such missions to Asia, where anti-Americanism is now strong.

DOUG CAMPBELL,
Toledo, Ohio

★

I am a member of the Ground Observer Corps in our city. We watch for possible enemy planes in the skies.

Some people seem to think that it is a waste of time to man look-out posts in our country. They say we won't be bombed anyway. I disagree with them. I look upon the GOC service as a type of insurance against possible destruction.

Enemy planes may never come—and we sincerely hope they won't—but the insurance "premium" of devoting a few hours a week to GOC certainly is a worthwhile investment.

CHUCK PATTERSON,
Cass City, Michigan

★

Some people are highly critical of the United Nations because it has not done away with war or the threats of war. I think it is too early to pass final judgment on the world organization. The UN is not yet nine years old. During that time it has made gains and it has suffered disappointments.

We should remember that our forefathers also suffered many bitter setbacks before a free and strong United States could become a reality.

RACHEL CARL,
Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

★

(Address letters to this column to Readers Say—, AMERICAN OBSERVER, 1733 K Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.) Send us your opinions on current topics, or tell us about unusual projects that your school is undertaking. If your first letter is not published in this column, don't be discouraged. Write again and the next one may be.

Your Vocabulary

In each sentence below match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are given on page 8, column 4.

1. They asked a committee to decide whether or not to *censure* (sēn'sure) him. (a) criticize (b) censor (c) follow (d) honor.

2. He tried to *amplify* (ām'plī-fi) his part in the proceedings. (a) deny (b) change (c) expand (d) forget.

3. Some of the charges against him were *spurious* (spū'ri-us). (a) well founded (b) new (c) old (d) false.

4. He was a *loquacious* (lō-kwā'shus) person. (a) careless (b) talkative (c) odd (d) peculiar.

5. She blamed her troubles on the *avarice* (āv'ūh-ris) of others. (a) greed (b) bad advice (c) disinterest (d) dishonesty.

6. Their government was in a *chaotic* (kā-ōt'ik) state. (a) financially sound (b) completely confused (c) ever-changing (d) financially unsound.

7. The prisoner was *acquitted* (āk-wit'ēd) by the jury. (a) found guilty (b) sentenced (c) found not guilty (d) questioned.

CURRENT AFFAIRS PUZZLE

Fill in the numbered vertical rows, according to the descriptions given here. When all are correctly finished, the heavy rectangle will tell when Americans are to choose the majority of their officials (two words).

1. Month in which most U. S. voters go to the polls.

2. Party which now controls the House of Representatives.

3. Senators, representatives, and _____ will be the top federal and state officials chosen this fall.

4. _____ candidates are attacking policies of the present administration.

5. About one third of the members of the _____ will be chosen this fall.

6. The only senator up for re-election in September is from the state of _____.

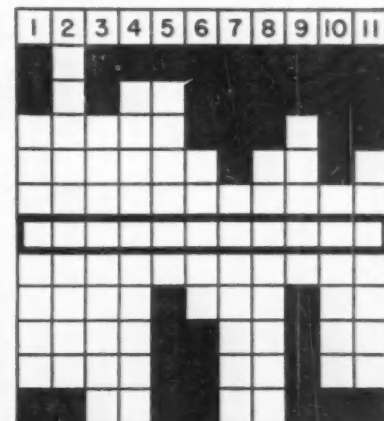
7. Illinois senator seeking re-election.

8. Barkley and Cooper are running against each other in _____ for a seat in the U. S. Senate.

9. An important campaign issue concerns our nation's _____ policy with other lands.

10. Man who will probably continue as House Speaker in next Congress if Republicans win.

11. Probable House Speaker in next Congress if Democrats win.



The Story of the Week



UNITED PRESS
PREMIER Pierre Mendes-France

Summer Roundup

Some of the big happenings of the past summer are given below. Stories elsewhere on these pages furnish more details on certain of the events.

June 1. Special loyalty board found scientist J. Robert Oppenheimer loyal but a security risk. Several weeks later, Atomic Energy Commission upheld board's verdict, and barred Oppenheimer from secret U. S. work.

June 17. Army-McCarthy hearings ended after 36 days of testimony. Case involved charges that Senator McCarthy and chief counsel of his investigating committee, Roy Cohn, used threats against Army in effort to get special privileges for Private G. David Schine. (Schine worked for McCarthy committee before he was drafted.) McCarthy side claimed Army used Schine as "hostage" in effort to halt Senate committee's investigation of that branch of service.

June 18. Anti-Reds in Guatemala revolted against pro-communist government of Jacobo Arbenz. New government took over 11 days later.

June 25-29. President Eisenhower and Britain's Prime Minister Churchill met in Washington, D. C., to discuss British-American relations and other issues.

June 25-July 1. Rio Grande and state of Iowa hit by floods. Meanwhile, areas in western, southern, and eastern U. S. suffered from severe drought.

July 20. Dr. Otto John, West German secret service chief, fled to East Germany. Later, he broadcast anti-western propaganda for Reds. West German government forced to reorganize secret service setup.

July 21. Indochinese truce signed. Agreement ended 7½-year-old French fight against communist rebels. Indochinese state of Viet Nam cut in two—southern part free, northern part communist. At same time, Geneva

conference of world powers ended without agreement on final peace settlement for Korea.

July 27. Suez Canal agreement reached by Britain and Egypt for withdrawal of all British troops from Suez area by early 1956.

August 2. Senate set up special committee to hold inquiry on resolution to censure Senator McCarthy for activities "unbecoming a senator."

August 5. Iran signed oil agreement with Western companies, thus ending three-year shut-down of its petroleum industries. Oil settlement will help keep near-bankrupt Iran from falling to Reds.

August 7. U. S. issued "White Paper" showing how Russia influenced communist movement in Guatemala. Asked all Latin American lands to meet with U. S. to discuss problem of Reds in Western Hemisphere later this year.

August 9. Balkan countries of Greece, Turkey, and Yugoslavia signed defense pacts agreeing to aid one another if attacked by Soviets.

August 20. U. S. House of Representatives adjourned, and Senate recessed. The latter body will meet again briefly after its special committee reports on the proposed resolution to censure Senator McCarthy.

September 6. Officials of the United States, Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand, and Pakistan scheduled to meet today in the Philippines for the purpose of trying to work out a defense pact for Southeast Asia.

Premier Mendes-France

Since the end of World War II, French premiers, who must have a majority support in parliament at all times or resign, have averaged about five months in office. As we go to press, there is global interest in how long the latest leader of that country, Pierre Mendes-France, will be able to stay in power.

It is possible that he might be out of office in a short time, perhaps even before this paper reaches its readers. His supporters are convinced, however, that he is the "man of the hour," and that he will be France's leader for a long time.

Whatever the fate of the premier, his countrymen will not soon forget him. As soon as he took over his post last June, he began an energetic fight to push drastic national reforms and bold foreign policy measures through the French legislature. If he succeeds, France will be a stronger nation and a more valuable member of the free world team.

A short man with a slight build, Mendes-France is a man of action. He goes to work about 8 o'clock in the morning. Contrary to the French custom of eating a leisurely lunch that may last for two hours, he gulps down a sandwich or two at mid-day, then hastens back to work. He rarely goes home from his office before 8 or 9 in the evening.

Born 47 years ago in Paris, Mendes-France studied law and entered politics at an early age. He won his first seat in the French parliament at 25—the minimum age for such a post. Since World War II, he has served his country as a legislator, top financial official, and diplomat.

Teen-Age Road-e-o

Do you drive a car? If you do, and if you are a good driver, you may want to prepare yourself for the 1955 Teen-age Road-e-o contest. The purpose of this contest is to improve the driving habits of young motorists and to give them a chance to prove their skills.

Local and state contests will be held within a few months. State winners are then given expense-free trips to the nation's capital, where the national competition takes place in August. Contestants in the nation-wide competition try for college scholarships totaling \$3,100.

In last month's national contest, 19-year-old Clement Wagner, of Kansas City, Missouri, took first prize—a \$1,250 college scholarship. The only girl in the national competition—17-year-old Mary Lou McCown of East Palestine, Ohio—took 17th place in a field of 51 contestants.

The driving contests are sponsored by many local groups and by the Junior Chambers of Commerce, the American Trucking Associations, Inc., and the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company. If you want details on how to enter the contest, write to National Road-e-o Committee, 21st and Maine Streets, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

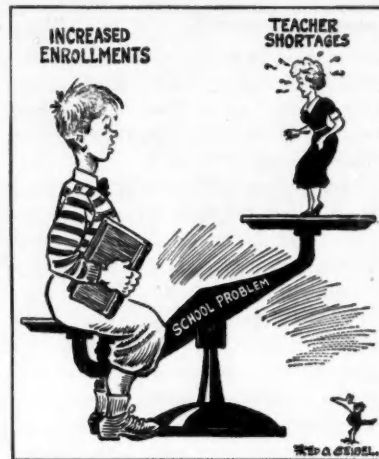
What Are We Doing?

As we know, two Asian countries—Korea and the Indochinese land of Viet Nam—are divided. They are partly controlled by the Reds and partly under non-communist rule. The Viet Nameans are scheduled to get a chance to vote for a unified government before July 1956. Thus far, no agreement has been reached with the communists for free elections in all of Korea.

Before the truce was signed in Indochina last July, we provided the French-led military forces there with over 2 billion dollars in aid to help

fight Red rebels. In Korea, we spent a total of some 15 billion dollars in an effort to halt the onward march of communism.

What are we doing now to help the cause of freedom in the two divided Asian lands? Are we helping the democratic forces of Viet Nam work for a victory in the forthcoming elections? If the non-communists do win in that battle of ballots, are we prepared to see to it that the Reds abide by the decision of the voters?



SEIBEL IN RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH
OUT OF BALANCE. There aren't enough teachers to take care of the rapidly growing enrollment in our schools.

What are we doing to help the Koreans achieve national unity? Are we helping the people of both unhappy lands overcome problems, such as poverty, on which communism thrives?

Americans want to know the answers to these and other questions dealing with our Asian policies. We shall discuss them at length in coming issues of this paper.

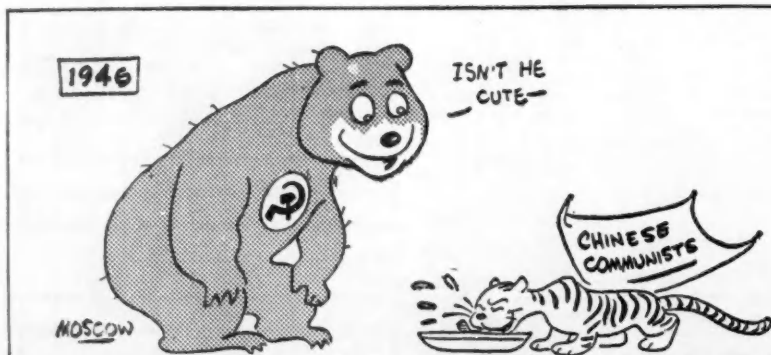
Record of the 83rd

The record of the outgoing Congress is now before the voters. Because it was under Republican leadership, the 83rd's record is especially important to that party in the coming November elections. But the Democrats, too, must account to the voters for their actions on Capitol Hill.

In the past year, Republicans as well as Democrats supported proposals of President Eisenhower and turned thumbs down on others. These lawmakers wonder whether their actions will help or hinder them at the polls.

Key administration-backed measures approved by the 1954 Congress include:

1. Some three billion dollars in military and economic aid to our overseas friends.



RED CHINA'S power in Asia is growing. Some observers feel that Russia, as well as the free world, is worried about this.

2. Over 30 billion dollars in defense funds—a billion less than the administration asked for.

3. U. S. participation with Canada in building the St. Lawrence Seaway project, after more than 30 years of debate in Congress on this issue.

4. Tax law changes, resulting in lower levies for many individuals and for a number of business firms. Also, date of tax payment moved from March 15 to April 15.

5. New farm program providing for somewhat less federal aid to farmers when their crop prices drop below certain levels.

6. Changes in atomic energy law providing private industry with a greater role in nuclear development and leading to more exchange of atomic information with our allies.

Congress turned down these White House proposals:

1. Changes in the Taft-Hartley labor law, which regulates relations between employers and workers, in effort to revise certain features objectionable to labor and to management.

2. Proposed change in Constitution to permit all 18-year-olds to vote.

3. Statehood for Hawaii. (Statehood bill was killed when the House of Representatives refused to pass Senate-approved measure admitting both Hawaii and Alaska to the Union.)

4. Three-year extension of law granting President power to make special tariff cuts on certain imports. President's tariff-cutting powers were extended for only one year.

In addition, disputes centering upon Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin have been in the congressional spotlight on frequent occasions. Also, the lawmakers turned down a change in the Constitution, proposed by Ohio's Republican Senator John Bricker, to limit treaty-making powers of the President.

(For pros and cons on Congress' record, see page 1 story.)

Term in the News

Coexistence. In today's world divided between democracy and communism, coexistence refers to the ability and willingness of both sides to get



THE ONLY GIRL in the National Teen-Age Road-e-o, Mary Lou McCown of East Palestine, Ohio, is shown at the wheel of the car in which she took her road test in traffic in Washington, D. C. With her is Archie Connor, one of the judges. Mary Lou placed 17th in the finals. Clement Wagner of Kansas City, Missouri, was first place winner (see story).

along with each other. In this sense, it has been a basic policy of the United States and other free nations since the close of World War II. Thus far, however, the Soviets and their communist allies have not given us much hope that they want to live at peace with other nations, although they keep saying that they do.

Coexistence also refers to a kind of armistice in the global struggle between democracy and communism. In other words, it means that we shall not attempt to destroy Red governments by force of arms. In turn, we expect the communists to stop trying to extend their control over new territories.

Poll on the UN

How many Americans think the United Nations is doing a good job in striving for world peace? Have the number of citizens who support the UN increased or dwindled since the world organization was set up in 1945?

Public opinion researcher Dr. George Gallup and his assistants tried to find the answers to these questions a short time ago. In a nationwide sample poll, the public opinion experts came up with these results:

Nearly 6 out of every 10 Americans questioned said the UN is doing a good job in trying to solve the problems it has had to face.

More than 3 out of every 4 citizens queried support the UN. In 1945, by comparison, only 2 out of 3 Americans favored the United Nations.

Three Hundred Years

The nation's 5 million Jews, as well as other Americans, will celebrate a special event during the next nine months—the 300th anniversary of Jewish settlements on our shores.

It was on September 12, 1654, that the first organized body of Jewish settlers arrived in the New World. The group made its home in what was then called New Amsterdam, and is now New York City.

The 300th anniversary of this event will be celebrated from September 12 until next May 30. The tercentenary program includes special radio and TV shows, exhibits, and many other activities. Materials on these programs are available to schools. Write to the American Jewish Tercentenary, 3 East 65th Street, New York, 21, N. Y., for additional information.

Future Articles

Ordinarily, we announce a week ahead the major articles which are to appear in the AMERICAN OBSERVER. This is not practical in the first paper of the new school year, however, for it goes to press farther in advance than other issues. The following subjects will be dealt with, though, in the near future:

(1) France and the European Defense Community; (2) India and her present role in world affairs; (3) Korea and Viet Nam—how they are meeting their problems and what we are doing for them; (4) business conditions and prospects; (5) communist problem in the United States; (6) how farmers stand today.

SPORTS

NO sporting event received more attention this summer than the mile run. In June, curly-haired John Landy of Australia set a new world record for the distance. In a meet in Finland, he ran the mile in 3 minutes and 58 seconds, breaking the mark set a month earlier by Roger Bannister of England.

Last month Landy and Bannister met for the first time on the cinder track. The scene was Vancouver, British Columbia, where the British Empire Games were being held. The winner was Bannister. His time was only a fraction of a second slower than Landy's world record.

Baseball, tennis, and golf produced their usual quota of summer standouts. The home run hitting of Willie Mays of the New York Giants caught the public eye. During much of the summer, Duke Snider of Brooklyn had the highest batting average in the big leagues. A tremendous one-game performance was turned in by Joe Adcock of Milwaukee when he slammed four home runs and a two bagger off Brooklyn pitching.

The tennis world rubbed its eyes when 32-year-old Jaroslav Drobny won the men's singles title at Wimbledon. The Czech exile is now an Egyptian citizen.

Maureen Connolly of San Diego won her third Wimbledon title in succes-



FASTEST MILERS in the world, Roger Bannister (left) and John Landy at the finish of their thrilling race

sion in women's play. Her string of U. S. triumphs was snapped, though, as a result of a broken leg incurred in a horse-riding accident in July. The 19-year-old California girl was unable to defend the U. S. title which she had won for the past three years.

Despite the handicap of a maimed left arm, caused by a childhood accident, plucky Ed Furgol of Clayton, Missouri, won the U. S. open golf championship for men. Babe Zaharias of Tampa, Florida, emerged as U. S. open golf champion for women. Her victory, too, was an inspiring one. Last year Mrs. Zaharias had an operation for cancer, and it was widely predicted at the time that she would never play golf again. In the recent tourney, though, she finished 12 strokes ahead of her nearest rival.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Mrs. A: "Does your husband consider you a necessity or a luxury?"

Mrs. B: "That depends on whether I am cooking his dinner or asking for a new dress."

You can't insult a modern girl by saying her hair-do looks like a mop, because she doesn't know what a mop looks like.

Boss (angrily): "Why is it you never get to the office on time?"

Stenographer: "Well, it's like this. You kept telling me not to watch the clock during office hours and now it's become such a habit that I don't watch it at home either."

Bob: "I'm tired of always being the goat!"

Cleo: "Then, why don't you stop butting in?"

"Is she very pretty?"
"Pretty? Say! When she gets on a street car, the advertising is a total loss."

Abernathy: "How's your son getting on in the Army?"

Crombe: "Wonderful! And it gives me a great sense of security. An Army that can make my boy get up early, work hard all day, and go to bed early, can do anything!"

A clever author is one who never asks what they are saying when he is told that everybody is talking about his latest book.



"Well, this loads the bases."

Asian Defense

(Concluded from page 1)

A conference to discuss the defense plan was scheduled to get under way in the Philippine Republic this week. Britain and France are somewhat favorable to the plan. India, Burma, and Indonesia are opposed to it.

Premier Jawaharlal Nehru of India is the most outspoken opponent of the U. S. defense proposal. Nehru says that India cannot take sides with either the western or the communist nations. While he contends that his position is a neutral one, his government often seems to favor the communists and to be highly critical of the United States.

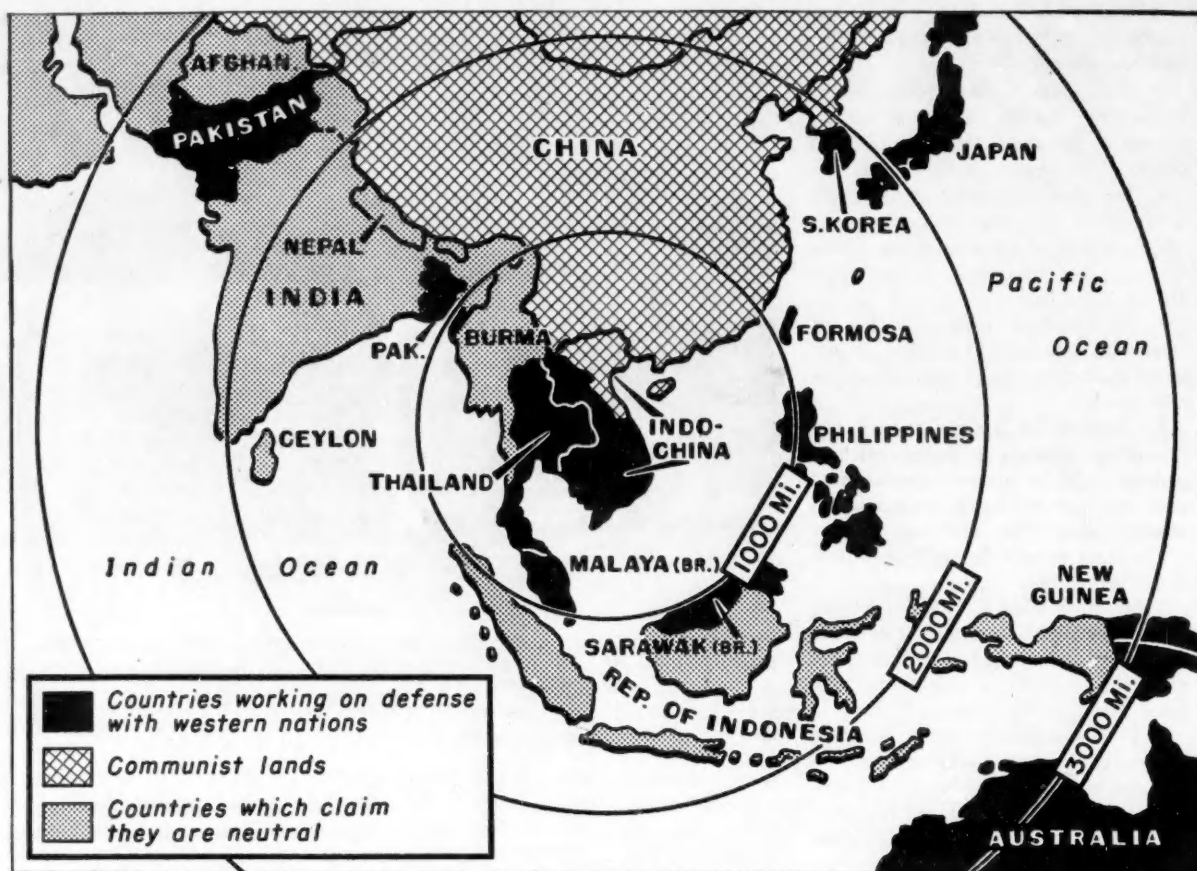
Nehru is believed to favor an all-Asia agreement for defense—one that would exclude us and our western allies. In the Nehru-type agreement, India, the Southeast Asia countries, communist Russia, and China would each promise not to attack any of the others.

Our government feels that the Nehru plan would not prevent further communist aggression and would give Russia and China a chance to extend their influence in Asia. If the Indian leader's idea is adopted and the U. S. defense proposal is thrown aside, we would conclude that the communists had won a victory. Our leaders hope this will not happen.

In the Middle East: Iran's decision to cooperate again with western nations in operating her rich oil fields is a big blow to the communists.

Three years ago, Iran closed down her Abadan refinery—probably the biggest in the world—after a dispute with Great Britain over profits. Britain had operated the refinery on lease and shared income from sales with Iran. That Middle Eastern land wanted a larger share of the oil income.

A month ago, after long negotiations, Iran agreed on a plan for re-opening her oil plant. Five American companies, one French, one Netherlands, and a British company will work



NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA, shown as neutral, is under Dutch rule but claimed by Indonesia

has agreed to withdraw her forces. Egyptians are to be in full control of the canal early in 1956.

An issue that has long irritated Egypt has thus been settled to her satisfaction. She may now be willing to join an anti-communist Middle East-North African defense organization—which she previously opposed.

The French government is just beginning to work on a plan for self-government by the natives in France's North African territories—Morocco and Tunisia. The Arabs in these territories have long demanded independence and have rebelled against the French on several occasions.

France can help to establish more peaceful conditions in North Africa if she actually ends her colonial control and lets the native peoples govern themselves. Communists will lose their best propaganda weapon—that France is enslaving the North Africans—if French plans are carried out. The U. S. maintains air bases in North Africa, so we are keenly interested in developments there.

In Europe: NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization set up in 1949 for the defense of Europe, is now well organized. Its strength is only about half that recommended by military experts as necessary to stop Russia in a war. Even so, NATO forces generally are credited with having discouraged Russia from trying a push into western Europe up to now.

Yugoslavia and her formerly unfriendly neighbors, Greece and Turkey, last month signed a defense pact to resist Russian communism. Greece and Turkey already belong to NATO. Yugoslavia, an anti-Russian state with a communist-type government, has cooperated with us on defense plans.

Nevertheless, the pact linking the three southeastern Europe nations in a common front is of great importance. The three are now on a friendly basis. By cooperating, they are putting up one more defense wall against communism.

Along with the good news in Europe, there is some that's bad. Our government wants West Germany to cooper-

ate with other nations in helping to defend Europe. In the attempt to achieve this goal, we have strongly backed the proposal for a European Defense Community (EDC).

Under this plan, troops of France, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg would be banded together in a single army. The combined force would be available for use by NATO in time of war.

The proposed EDC has been approved by four of the six nations involved. Only France and Italy have held back. It is generally thought that Italy would have given its support if France had gone along, but the latter nation is bitterly divided on the issue as we go to press.

A number of Frenchmen favor the EDC, for they feel that German manpower is needed for anti-communist defense. Many others, remembering past wars with Germany, never want the people of that country to rearm.

In addition, there is a big conflict between national power—which many Frenchmen are determined to keep intact—and international authority which would be held by the new six-nation organization. It would practically control the military forces of the nations involved.

If France rejects EDC, or fails to present an acceptable substitute plan, the U. S. and Britain are expected to try to bring West Germany into NATO. Most allied leaders feel that German troops are needed for European defense, and that if we do not bring the West Germans into military cooperation with us, they may turn toward Russian leadership. This situation is one of our country's major foreign problems.

In Latin America: We maintain friendly relations with our southern neighbors. The only government openly friendly to Russia, that of Guatemala (see page 7 story), was overthrown by civil war and replaced by an anti-Red group last summer.

Gains or losses? On the whole, a look around the world today suggests that we and our allies have been gaining ground against communism—de-

spite some setbacks in Asiatic lands.

The question then arises: How are we getting along with our allies? The answer is that we work well with them for the most part, but disagreements have arisen.

For example, there is the matter of trade with communist nations. Our government's view is that selling goods to the Reds, especially goods that have military value, amounts to helping strengthen an enemy. Our allies generally have gone along with us on this idea.

Now, however, Britain, Japan, West Germany, and others are being offered big orders from communist lands. These allied nations depend on foreign trade far more than we do to make a living. They'd like to sell products to the Red countries, since the U. S. and other western nations are not providing a big enough market.

The U. S. recognizes that our friends must make a living. The big question is how much our allies can increase trade with the communists without adding materially to Red military strength.

A second dispute concerns the possibility of admitting Red China to the United Nations. The British government and others are more favorable to this proposal than we are. The British feel that Red China may be won away from cooperation with Russia if given an opportunity to take part in international affairs.

The Eisenhower administration points out that Red China took part in the war against the UN in Korea and helped bring about the communist victory in Indochina. President Eisenhower feels that the Chinese communists should not be admitted to the UN until they show by deeds that they are sincerely interested in working for peace.

The issue of recognizing Red China doubtless will be discussed when the UN General Assembly meets in New York later this month. U. S. leaders are confident that our allies will stand with us in rejecting Red China's membership in the United Nations at the present time.



INDOCHINA. The map shows how Viet Nam has been divided.

with Iran. That country is to get 50 per cent of profits from oil sales.

By October 1, Iranian oil is expected to be on its way to western nations. Russian efforts to get control of the Iranian oil resources have failed.

In North Africa: The news is good in this region, which is largely populated by Arabs and in which Russia would like to get a foothold.

Egypt and Britain have reached an agreement over control of the Suez Canal, which is in Egyptian territory and which connects the seas of Europe with those of Asia. Britain has kept troops on guard over the important canal for many years. Now, Britain

Radio-TV Movies

HOW much do you think it would cost to buy one full hour of time during an evening on all the nation's 389 commercial television stations?

The required payment, according to Martin Codel's TV Factbook, would be \$194,875. The highest individual station rates are approximately \$6,000 an hour, charged by two New York City stations for their best hours. Lowest is \$90 an hour—the rate of a station in Bellingham, Washington.

The semi-annual book about the television industry also puts forth some interesting figures about the growth of TV around the globe. With 389 stations, the United States has more than three times as many as all the rest of the world.

West Germany is in second place with 16. Canada is third. As of mid-summer, our northern neighbor had 12 stations on the air with nine more preparing to operate.

The Soviet Union has only seven stations. (And the Russians claim they invented TV!)

★

Life at the Oaks, an exclusive boys' school in the Southwest, is the theme of a new movie starring Greer Garson. In "Her Twelve Men," Miss Garson plays the part of a teacher who gives the boys of the Oaks (known, naturally, as the Acorns) sympathy and guidance they had never received in the wealthy homes from which they came.

Robert Ryan plays the part of a schoolmaster who needles and advises Miss Garson. The latter's efforts to keep her young charges under control keep interest at a high pitch. The lively antics of the Acorns supply plenty of laughs.

★

If you don't see "Meet the Press" on television or hear it by radio, you are missing one of the most informative and entertaining programs on the air. Week after week, people of outstanding news interest are quizzed by a panel of top newspapermen.

Here, for example, are some of the newsworthy individuals who have been interviewed on this program in recent weeks: Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey, Attorney General Herbert Brownell, Senator William Knowland of California, and Senator J. W. Fulbright of Arkansas. See your local papers for the day and time of this program.



SCENE from "Her Twelve Men," a new movie with Britain's Greer Garson as the star



INSIDE A TEXTILE MILL, one of Guatemala's comparatively few factories



TWO GUATEMALAN Indian girls. Most of the population is Indian.

Volcanic Guatemala

Central American Country Is Now Simmering Down after Revolt Which Saw Pro-Communist Group Ousted from Office

OUR leaders are breathing easier as a result of the summer's developments in Guatemala. Castillo Armas, who led a successful uprising against the pro-communist regime of Jacobo Arbenz Guzman, has control of his country's government, and is vigorously cleaning out the Reds. U. S. officials are giving Armas firm support in his efforts to mold his country into a strong democracy.

Last spring there was widespread concern in Washington about the situation in Guatemala. Under the rule of President Arbenz, the little Central American country was becoming a Red stronghold. Communists were fanning hatred against the United States. At a time when we were deeply involved in curbing the Red threat in Europe and Asia, it came as a shock to Americans to find that our hemisphere neighbor, Guatemala, was securing arms from communist lands in Europe.

In June a revolt took place. Castillo Armas, an army colonel who had been forced by the Arbenz regime to leave the country, came back at the head of an armed band of anti-communist exiles. He launched his drive from neighboring Honduras, and within 12 days had succeeded in taking over the country with his "Army of Liberation." The Arbenz government was ousted.

The land in which these events took place is about 1,000 miles south of the United States. About the same size as Tennessee, Guatemala extends entirely across the narrowing neck of Central America. Its two southern neighbors are Honduras and El Salvador. To the north lie Mexico and the colony of British Honduras.

Guatemala is a scenic country. Its mountainous interior is dotted with steaming volcanoes, and sparkling streams run down the mountainsides. On both the Caribbean and Pacific coasts are tropical lowlands.

The little nation's population is slightly more than 3 million—about equal to that of Alabama. Well over half are Indians, descendants of the ancient Mayas who fought the Spanish conquerors when they came seeking gold in the 16th century. Many other Guatemalans are of mixed blood.

The comparatively small group of whites is mostly of Spanish descent.

As in many Latin American countries, most people are poor, but there is a small group of wealthy landowners. No substantial middle class exists. More than 70 per cent of the people are illiterate.

Farming is the main occupation in Guatemala. Coffee and bananas are the two principal money-making crops. Corn and beans are the staple food crops.

Governments have come and gone



GUATEMALA is about the size of Tennessee

in Guatemala over the years, often through sudden revolutions. About the end of World War II, one of these overturns took place. The new government plunged into an enthusiastic program of reform.

It was about this time that a few native communists went to work quietly, infiltrating political parties and working with patriotic groups. Placed in key spots, they eventually wielded great power. Had it not been for Armas, the Reds would today have a beachhead almost on our doorstep.

Guatemala's new president pledges that he will advance and improve the reforms carried out by the preceding government. In fact, he says that land taken by the Reds and rented to the poor farmers will now be given to them outright. He also plans the construction of many homes, schools, and hospitals as a big step toward raising living standards.

Thief of Time

By Walter E. Myer

MUCH that we hear or say is soon forgotten. Many words of counsel are soon dismissed from our minds. "They fall like snowflakes on the river, a moment white, then gone forever."

Once in a while, however, someone drives home a simple truth so reasonably or forcefully that it is remembered long after the lifetime of the one who expressed it. More than three hundred years ago, for example, an English poet, Edward Young, said that "Procrastination is a thief of time."

This is a thought which every student may well hold in mind. It is especially apt at the beginning of the school year when habits of study are being formed and put to use. It is so easy then to neglect one's work—to lose time.

Procrastination, the ruthless thief of time, is busy with his work. He suggests that the student need not put forth his greatest effort. "Wait a while"—that is his slogan, and many there are who listen to his persuasive voice. He induces students to dawdle with their work, to kill or waste the time which, if wisely used, might lead to success in their studies, and in life outside the school.



Walter E. Myer

It is easy to put things off during the early days or weeks of a school term. There is no crisis at that time—not too much work to be done at the start. Few students stand out in front at the first. One may then, so it seems, let the work go for a while, intending to catch up during the long weeks which are to follow.

It is important, though, that the student should not allow his time to be wasted or stolen. With every good day's work ahead, the weeks to come will be easier. One who gets into habits of industry in the very beginning is likely to maintain them later on. Look out for your time. See to it that every hour is well spent.

Wise use of your time is largely a question of organization. As you go through each day and as you get your assignments, look ahead to see when you can do tomorrow's work. Algebra can be finished in a study period; English will require some library work after school; biology and French can be done at home.

By planning well and by carrying out your plans, you can easily rout that thief of time! Your work will be done and you'll have more hours of leisure.

"The world is full of people who have eyes and ears, yet do not see or hear. I would rather be blind and deaf than be one of these."

—HELEN KELLER

"So long as we are loved by others, I would almost say we are indispensable; and no man is useless while he has a friend."

—ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

"Fame is a vapor, popularity an accident, riches take wings. Only one thing endures, and that is character."

—HORACE GREELEY

A Career for Tomorrow -- In Accountancy

DO YOU like to deal with figures and financial problems? If so, accounting may be the career for you.

Your qualifications should include a liking for mathematics. You also need the ability to handle details and to engage in research. Accuracy, honesty, perseverance, and neatness are other required qualities.

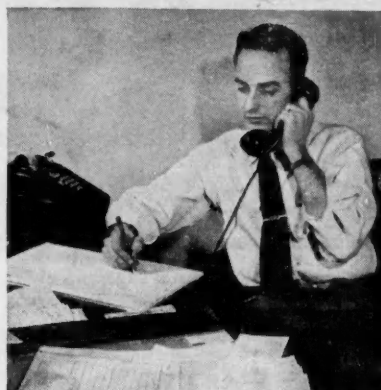
Your duties, if you decide to become an accountant, will depend upon the specific branch of work you choose. *General accountants* keep the financial records of business firms. *Cost accountants* study a company's operating costs. *Auditors* are accountants who examine the financial records of business firms, government agencies, and other organizations to see that records are reliable. *Tax accountants* specialize in tax matters and prepare returns for business groups and private individuals.

Accountants who work for business firms or government agencies are known as *private accountants*. *Public accountants* are those who are self-employed and have offices, much as a doctor or lawyer does. Individuals and business firms come to them with accounting matters, just as you go to a doctor when you have a medical problem.

Your training can be secured by going to work in an office under the supervision of qualified accountants, or by going to college. If you choose the latter course, you will take courses in economics, finance, accounting systems, and related subjects. Actually,

the best jobs today go to accountants who have a college degree or a diploma from specialized business schools.

If you want to become an accountant and plan to go to college, you should take a college preparatory course in high school. If you do not intend to go to college or business school, book-keeping and English will be your best high school subjects. You can, if you



AN ACCOUNTANT at his desk

wish, get formal training as an accountant in the evening at business schools and colleges located in most larger cities across the country.

To reach the highest positions in this profession, you must have an intensive education and become a CPA—Certified Public Accountant. Certification, like the licensing of doctors or lawyers, is done by the state. Each state has its own rules governing the matter, but all require that CPA's pass

a difficult, written examination. Details can be obtained from the State Board of Accountancy, which is likely to have offices in your state capital.

Your salary, as a beginner trained in accountancy, may be between \$50 and \$80 a week. Experienced accountants (not CPA's) usually earn from \$5,000 to \$8,000 a year. Average earnings for CPA's, according to a recent survey, is \$10,000 a year.

Advantages are (1) the good earnings, and (2) the opportunities for advancement. Also, qualified accountants are in demand and seldom have to look far for well-paid positions.

Disadvantages include the strain that comes from having to do highly accurate work at all times. The need for absolute accuracy and the pressure of work can become unbearable unless you are suited for the job.

Further information may be secured from the American Institute of Accountants, 270 Madison Avenue, New York 16, N. Y. A pamphlet, "Accountancy as a Career Field," can be obtained for 10 cents from the National Association and Council of Business Schools, 601 13th Street, N.W., Washington 5, D. C.

Pronunciations

Baguio—bā'gō-ō'

Castillo Armas—kā-stēl'yō ār'mās

Jacobo Arbenz Guzman—hā-kō'bō ār-bēnz gōōs-mān'

Jawaharlal Nehru—juh-wā-hur-lāl' nē-rō

Mendes-France—mēn'dēs-frāns'

Viet Nam—vē-ēt' nām'

Study Guide

Elections

1. What officials are to be chosen in the forthcoming general elections?
2. In politics, what is a "doubtful state"?
3. Give the approximate party line-up in each house of Congress.
4. Name some prominent senators who are running for re-election this year.
5. Identify Joseph Martin and Sam Rayburn.
6. What do the Democrats say about the Republicans' handling of U. S. foreign policy?
7. How does the GOP reply to Democratic charges on this subject?
8. Tell of some other issues on which Democrats attack the Republican record, and describe the GOP retort in each case.

Discussion

1. In your opinion, which party deserves to win a congressional majority in the 1954 elections? Explain your position.
2. What do you think is the most important campaign issue? Give reasons for your answer.

The Foreign Scene

1. Why did France feel she had to make a peace in Indochina with the communists?
2. How does the U. S. hope to check further Red gains in Southeast Asia?
3. What is India's position toward the U. S. plan?
4. Why does our government disapprove of India's idea for protecting Southeast Asia?
5. Briefly list important developments in the Middle East and North Africa that can be put down as gains against communism.
6. Describe the proposed European Defense Community.
7. Give the French and U. S. views on EDC.
8. Tell something about differences existing between us and our allies.

Discussion

1. Do you think the U. S. should go ahead with a program for arming West Germany if France rejects EDC? Defend your position.
2. What do you believe our attitude toward India should be if she refuses to support an effective Southeast Asian defense program?

Miscellaneous

1. When was the Indochinese truce signed?
2. Which nations are scheduled to discuss a Southeast Asian defense pact in the Philippines today?
3. Why is Pierre Mendes-France in the news?
4. Name certain of the Eisenhower-backed measures approved by the 83rd Congress. Which were turned down?
5. In world affairs, what is meant by coexistence?
6. What special anniversary are the nation's Jews celebrating this year?

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Answers to Your Vocabulary

1. (a) criticize; 2. (c) expand; 3. (d) false; 4. (b) talkative; 5. (a) greed; 6. (b) completely confused; 7. (c) found not guilty.

Historical Backgrounds -- Mid-term Elections

CAN history help us predict the outcome of the 1954 congressional election? Whether it can or not, there are some interesting facts to be noted about earlier House and Senate races.

This is known as an *off-year*, or *mid-term* election—that is, it comes halfway through the President's four-year term. In nearly every such mid-term contest since the Civil War, the party in power has lost ground. The most recent exception to this "rule" was 20 years ago, when the Democrats made new congressional gains just two years after their sweeping victory in the Presidential election of 1932.

What Happened Then?

The Democrats went ahead to win the White House, as well as majorities in Congress, at every succeeding Presidential election year through 1948. But they lost ground in each mid-term congressional election from 1938 through 1950. In 1946, Democratic losses were so great that the Republicans gained control of the House and Senate. For two years thereafter, Democratic President Truman faced a Republican Congress.

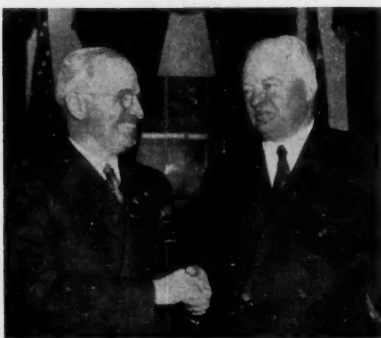
Democrats, viewing these facts, claim that history is on their side in the 1954 campaign. As the losers two years ago, and the minority party in the present Congress, they think that they can expect to achieve some gains this year. It wouldn't take very large gains, they point out, to give them an actual majority in each house. Two additional Senate seats, and five in the House of Representatives, would do the trick.

Republicans, on the other hand, in-

sist that this is one time when the party in power will strengthen its position. They are especially hopeful with respect to the Senate. About 20 Senate seats are at stake this year in "doubtful states"—areas where either party might possibly win. Of these 20, a dozen are now Democratic and only 8 are Republican.

In other words, more Democratic than Republican Senate posts are regarded as being in danger. According to Republican spokesmen, this fact is far more important than figures from previous mid-term elections. "We have a better chance of capturing extra seats than do the Democrats," Republican spokesmen declare.

In 1948, the Republicans themselves learned that past political experience cannot always be relied upon. Previous to then, whenever the out-of-power group gained a congressional majority at the mid-term election, it could gen-



FORMER PRESIDENTS Truman (left) and Hoover. They had a hard time getting laws passed when parties opposing them won majorities in Congress in off-year elections.

erally expect to win the Presidency two years later. But though the Republicans gained control of Congress in the 1946 mid-term race, they failed to defeat President Truman in his 1948 bid for re-election.

The Republicans had plenty of historical examples, however, to make them optimistic at the time of the 1948 election. Here are several:

(1) Democrats gained an edge over the GOP in the congressional race of 1930, when Republican Herbert Hoover was President. Two years later, Democratic candidate Franklin Roosevelt won the Presidency.

(2) Republicans won control of Congress in the 1918 mid-term race, while Democrat Woodrow Wilson was President. Two years later, Republican voters sent Warren Harding to the White House.

(3) Wilson had been elected President in 1912, after a 1910 mid-term election which gave his party control of the House of Representatives for the first time in many years.

One other fact that history reveals about mid-term congressional races is this: Generally speaking, fewer voters go to the polls for these balloting than for Presidential elections. This occurs despite the fact that a *President cannot do a good job without the help of good lawmakers*.

Not quite 40 million people voted in the mid-term congressional race of 1950. Just two years later, in the 1952 Presidential election, 61½ million voters went to the polls. Various groups of citizens are now making efforts to secure as large a turnout as possible at the polls this fall.